

NOVEMBER 2011

NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS FROM
THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES

#1 CITY FOR FAMILIES

- FamilyCircle
2011

Holiday Homecoming & Electric Christmas Parade

Festivities Set for Nov. 25, 26 & 27

Meetings

November

City Council
7 p.m. 7

Government Operations
7:05 p.m. 7

Plan Commission
7 p.m. 8

Tree Commission
6:30 p.m. 9

Planning & Development
7 p.m. 14

City Council
7 p.m. 21

Government Operations
7:05 p.m. 21

Plan Commission
7 p.m. 22

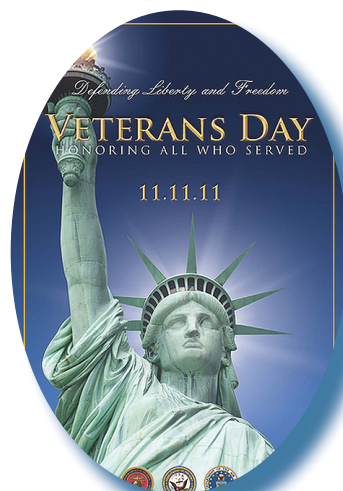
Government Services
7 p.m. 28



Celebrate the holidays Nov. 25, 26 and 27 at Holiday Homecoming 2011 for a free, fun-filled and festive weekend. Enjoy the traditional Lighting of the Lights ceremony--this year on the 1st Street Plaza, free holiday movies at the Arcada Theatre, a family concert at the library, strolling carolers, sleigh rides, visits with Santa, and a spectacular Electric Christmas Parade on Main Street! This event is presented by the Downtown St. Charles Partnership. For more information and a complete schedule of events, visit www.downtownstcharles.org/holidayhomecoming.

Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11

Honor Our Veterans During Service at the Freedom Shrine



Please join us for the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony to honor and thank all those who served our country in the Armed Forces. The ceremony is Friday, Nov. 11 at 10:45 a.m. at the Freedom Shrine behind the St. Charles Police Station, 211 N. Riverside Ave. All are welcome.

The ceremony will begin with a reading of the official Veteran's Day Proclamation, followed by an invocation, salute to the flag, a 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps.

City Offices will be open Nov. 11.

Follow us



And be sure to visit the
City Administrator's
blog at
www.insidestcharles.com

Comprehensive Plan Enters Visioning Phase

The Comprehensive Plan project is now entering the “Vision, Goals and Objectives” phase, where the overall vision for the City and the Downtown will take shape. Work in this phase drives subsequent planning, serves as a “cornerstone” to building a consensus, and identifies a path for growth and development. Based on the vision, along with an existing conditions analysis and feedback from the recently held workshops, Preliminary Goals and Objectives will be prepared. All are invited to attend a visioning workshop:

Visioning Workshop for the City and Downtown

Wednesday, November 30, 2011, at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, 2 E. Main St., St. Charles



This hands-on workshop invites participants to put pen to paper and illustrate their vision for the future of St. Charles. Large group and small group working sessions will identify issues, opportunities and the future visions of the City. The goal is to build agreement on the long-term role and character of St. Charles and future projects and improvements.

Continue to Submit Your Comments on the Project Website

Resident and Business Questionnaires based on feedback from earlier workshops will be posted to the website in coming weeks. If you weren't able to participate in the neighborhood workshops, there is still a chance to submit your comments. The Comprehensive Plan project website features a mapping tool that allows you to note your comments on a map of St. Charles. Visit at www.stcharlesil.gov and click on the Comprehensive Plan badge.

Thanks to everyone who attended the neighborhood workshops. If you filled out or collected any green comment cards, please drop them off at City Hall or bring them to any workshop.

Bema Incorporated Announces Expansion into St. Charles

Flexible Packaging Company to Open Facility on Ohio Ave.

Bema Incorporated, an Elmhurst-based flexible plastics packaging company that specializes in extruding, printing, laminating and converting plastics, is opening a new facility at 3620 Ohio Ave. in St. Charles. The new site will occupy 70,000 square feet and employ 15 to 20 people starting in 2012, reaching full employment of 50 to 60 people by 2014.

“We are very fortunate in these economic times to be experiencing a period of substantial growth, and we felt that St. Charles was the perfect community for our expansion,” said Bema President Glen Galloway. “This site will meet our immediate needs and is well suited for our continued growth. As one of the few communities in the Chicago area that has its own electric utility, St. Charles was able to offer us competitive rates and unmatched

reliability that made our decision much easier.”

“This is a great opportunity for both Bema and the City of St. Charles industrial business community and employment force,” said St. Charles Mayor Donald DeWitte. “Bema is a quality company with a long and successful history, and we're very happy to welcome them to our City. Bema's commitment to our community continues to quantify the benefits of an aggressive business recruitment philosophy, and high quality infrastructure assets, providing an attractive environment in which to conduct business.”

Bema processes plastic resin into plastic film that is used in food packaging and a variety of industrial packaging applications.



2011 LEAF PICK-UP SCHEDULE

OCTOBER				
	EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER		WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER	
	Area 1 Southeast Quadrant South of Main St	Area 2 Northeast Quadrant North of Main St	Area 3 Southwest Quadrant South of Main St	Area 4 Northwest Quadrant North of Main St
1 ST PICK UP	OCTOBER 26	OCTOBER 28	NOVEMBER 1	NOVEMBER 3
NOVEMBER				
	EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER		WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER	
	Area 1 Southeast Quadrant South of Main St	Area 2 Northeast Quadrant North of Main St	Area 3 Southwest Quadrant South of Main St	Area 4 Northwest Quadrant North of Main St
2 ND PICK UP	NOVEMBER 4	NOVEMBER 8	NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 14
3 RD PICK UP	NOVEMBER 15	NOVEMBER 17	NOVEMBER 21	NOVEMBER 23
4 TH PICK UP	NOVEMBER 28	NOVEMBER 29	NOVEMBER 30	DECEMBER 1
Pick up is not available for these subdivisions/areas	Cumberland Green	Whittington Course, Royal Fox private streets, Dunham Place Commons, Delnor Townhomes, Delnor Glen Drive	Viewpointe & Willowgate	Wildrose Townhomes, Auburn Court, Benham Court, Oak Crest

Leaf Collection Information

With the onset of Autumn comes falling leaves, which usually means plenty of raking. The City of St. Charles is providing fall leaf pick up according to the above schedule. (See area map on next page.)

Check your utility bill or call Utility Billing at 630-377-4426 if you have a question about your eligibility for leaf collection.

Please remember to pile raked leaves on the right-of-way or curb area only. Do not rake, blow, or pile the leaves into the streets. Not only is this in violation of city ordinance, but piles of leaves in the street can clog storm sewer drains, create localized flooding, and make the roads slippery and dangerous for vehicles, bikes, and pedestrians.

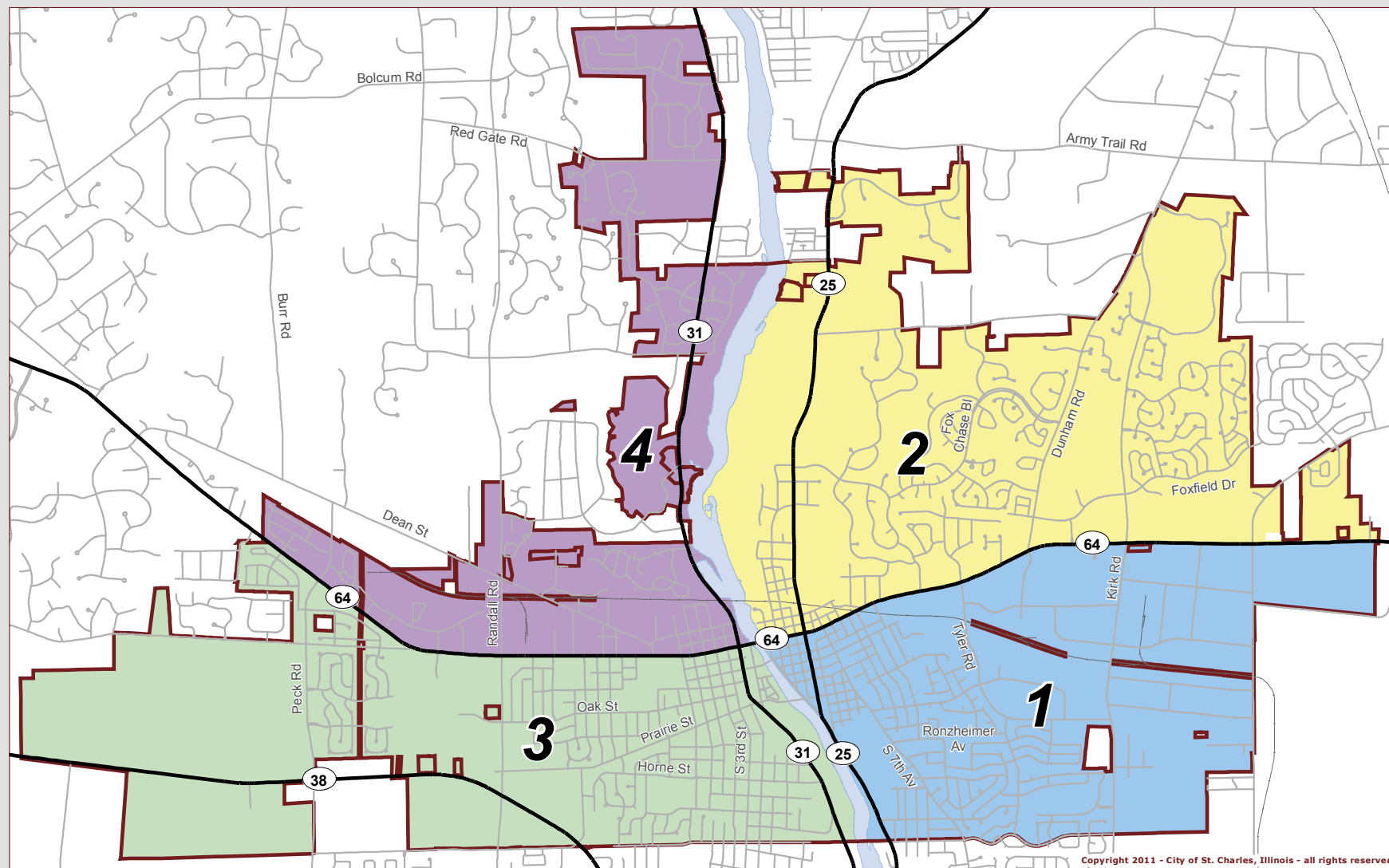
Personnel from Building and Code Enforcement and Public Works will enforce proper leaf collection regulations. Residents in violation will be required to remove the leaves from the street within 24 hours and may be subject to fines of up to \$500.00.

Leaf Collection Tips

- Inclement weather or a large volume of leaves could alter the leaf pickup schedule.
- Leaf piles with vehicles parked in front of them will not be picked up.
- Leaves must be on the parkway by 6:30 a.m. on your area's designated day.
- Rake leaves in a row parallel to the street at least one foot back from the curb and off of the sidewalk.
- Leaf piles will not kill grass, although they may cause it to discolor.
- Avoid raking foreign materials into leaf piles as these could damage equipment or cause injury to personnel.
- Yard waste bag pickup by Veolia ends November 30.
- This schedule and other updates are available on the City website www.stcharlesil.gov/news

PLEASE NOTE

THE LEAF PICKUP SCHEDULE PRINTED IN THE OCT/NOV ISSUE OF *NEIGHBORS OF ST. CHARLES* IS INCORRECT. PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHEDULE ABOVE OR THE CITY WEBSITE FOR THE CORRECT INFORMATION.



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Coordinate System: Illinois State Plane East
North American Datum 1983

Data Source:
City of St. Charles, Illinois
Dupage County, Illinois



**Area Collection
Dates:**

Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
10/26/11	10/28/11	11/1/11	11/3/11
11/4/11	11/8/11	11/10/11	11/14/11
11/15/11	11/17/11	11/21/11	11/23/11
11/28/11	11/29/11	11/30/11	12/1/11

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New Recycling Bins Added to Municipal and First Street Plazas



New blue recycling bins have been added to the 1st St. Plaza on the corner of 1st and Main streets, and to the Municipal Plaza along the river. Everyone is encouraged to use the bins to recycle plastic, aluminum cans and paper. Please use these blue bins for the recyclable materials listed above only. Trash cans are available throughout the city to dispose of garbage and other non-recyclable items.

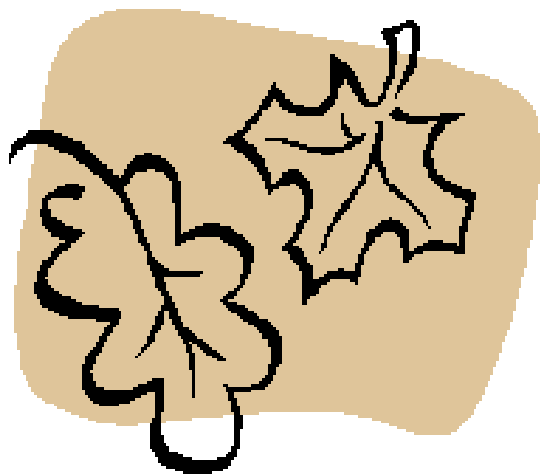
The City of St. Charles promotes a number of environmentally friendly practices including land, water and energy initiatives. For more information about City sustainability programs as well as helpful links to area-wide initiatives, please visit the Green St. Charles website at www.stcharlesil.gov/green. For questions about the recycling bins, please contact Public Works department at 630-377-4405.

Leaves and Storm Sewers Don't Mix!

When preparing your leaves for collection, do not place the leaves in the street. This is a violation of a city code and residents will receive a fine up to \$500. The public storm sewer system plays a vital role in protecting our properties and roadways from flooding during rain events. The system's ability to effectively convey storm water runoff during heavy rains can be compromised due to leaves and litter being washed down the street in a rain storm and plugging the grates and inlets. Residents can help protect their property from flooding by keeping the storm sewer grating

near their home free of leaves, litter and other debris.

Please contact the Public Works Department at 630-377-4405 if you have any questions regarding the City's storm water system.



Brush Pick Up Schedule

East
Nov. 21

West
Nov. 28



Brush also can be placed in paper yard waste bags for pick-up with regular refuse. Either bags with the City logo or generic bags can be used. However, generic bags require one refuse sticker on each bag.

Yardwaste Collection

The last yardwaste collection of 2011 will be Nov. 30. Collection will resume April 2, 2012.

First Ever Nationwide Emergency Alert System Test Nov. 9



The first ever nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) will occur **Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 1 p.m.**, local time. The 3-1/2-minute alert of traditional

beeps and tones will be transmitted simultaneously over all broadcast and satellite television and radio stations, and cable television channels across the United States and several U. S. territories (Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and American Samoa). The EAS plays a key role in ensuring the public is alerted and receives vital information in the event of a national emergency or weather event.

The test is being conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, along with the Federal Communications Commission and will interrupt regularly scheduled programs. However, no outdoor warning devices will be sounded.

All citizens are urged to listen for this test on November 9 and be sure to prepare an emergency plan in the event of an incident.

For more information, please visit www.ready.gov or contact the St. Charles Emergency Management Agency at 630-377-4458.

Don't Be Left in the Dark

While the St. Charles Electric Utility proactively maintains its streetlights, we do rely on the assistance of residents to notify us if a streetlight is out, intermittently cycling, flickering or has other maintenance concerns.

Please report a streetlight (not traffic signal) that is out or malfunctioning, by calling us at 630-377-4407 or go online to www.stcharlesil.gov, click on the Customer Service Request icon, and then click on the category "Report a problem/safety hazard." Be ready to provide the location of the streetlight--house number, intersection or midblock between which streets--and give a brief description of the problem. Please also include your name and phone number so we may contact you if additional information is needed. Streetlights are typically repaired on Fridays. Thank you for your assistance.



Important Floodplain Information

Floodplain Permits

All developments within the 100-year floodplain (not just construction of buildings, but filling, excavation, fences, etc.) are required to obtain a City of St. Charles Permit. Applications must be made prior to doing any work in a floodplain area.

Substantial Building Improvement and Floodplain Management Standards

The National Flood Insurance Program requires that if the cost of improvements to a building or the cost to repair damages (from any cause) to a building exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building (excluding land value), the entire building must be brought up to current floodplain management standards. Building improvement projects include exterior and interior remodeling, rehabilitation, additions, and repair and reconstruction projects.

Additionally, the cost of currently planned improvements will be added to the cost of previously made improvements and compared to the existing market value to determine if the improvements exceed 50 percent of the structure's value.

Flood Warning System

Many times, flooding within the City of St. Charles can be predicted days in advance, giving ample warning for preparation and evacuation. However, in the event of a flash flood due to ice jams or large storms, you may be the first to notice the oncoming situation. Call 911 and the Police Department will notify the Emergency Management Agency (EMA). For EMA updates, tune in to 780 AM on the radio, or watch your local television stations.

Drainage System Maintenance

As simple as it may sound, keeping smaller ditches and streams free of debris can dramatically improve the outflow of run-off from low lying areas, as well as greatly reduce the occurrence of ice jams. It is illegal to dump materials into a required waterway and violators may be fined. There are also numerous drainage districts within the county that will relieve certain areas of congestion from fallen trees and leaves, or beaver dams.

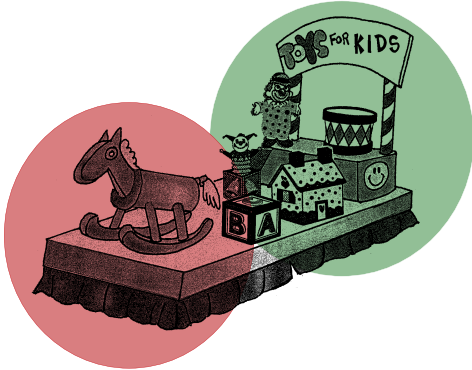
The City has photos and flood data from the August 2007 Fox River flood and September 2008 100-year storm. Residents may contact the City if they are experiencing drainage or flooding problems to schedule a site visit with City staff.

Please contact the Public Works Engineering Office at 630-377-4486 for more information on any of the items detailed here.

Tri-City Toys for Kids Program

The Tri-City Toys for Kids program is asking for support in helping make this Christmas special for area children in need. Now in its 28th year, the program collects toys for distribution by the Salvation Army to boys and girls in the Tri-City area.

The program is looking for gifts of new toys, games, dolls or monetary donations.



Donations can be dropped off at these locations:

Pottawatomie Golf Course
Pottawatomie Community Center
Norris Recreation Center
District 303 Grade Schools
Geneva High School
St. Charles North High School
Hosanna Lutheran Church

You also can bring toys to the Holiday Homecoming Parade Saturday, Nov. 26 and give them to the St. Charles Breakfast Rotary Elves who will be collecting donations on their Float of Toys. Toys will be accepted until Friday, Dec. 16. Thank you for your support.

Thanksgiving

**The City of St. Charles offices will be closed
Thursday & Friday, Nov. 24 & 25
in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday**



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630.443.3744

Giving Tree at City Hall

The City of St. Charles employee Wellness Team is again coordinating a Giving Tree program for the upcoming holidays. The Giving Tree, located at City Hall, will benefit local single moms from Embrace A Family (www.embraceafamily.com) and local seniors who attend the Elderday Center (www.elderdaycenter.org).

To participate, just select a tag, purchase the item(s), and return the unwrapped gift(s) to the Giving Tree at City Hall by Dec. 15. Items on the tags are at all price levels, starting at \$5. The gifts will be wrapped and delivered in time for Christmas. Cash donations are welcome, too, and will be used to purchase items on tags not selected. Cash donations may be left with the City receptionist. Please feel free to call the Human Resources office at 630.377.4446 with questions.



Daylight Savings Time Ends!

**Remember to
turn the clocks
back one hour
Sunday, Nov. 6.**

